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N.J. BOARD OF NURSING

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF

Kiesha M. Harrison, C.H.H.A. Certificate No. 26NH13418600

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

FINAL ORDER OF DISCIPLINE

HOMEMAKER HOME HEALTH AIDE IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing (the "Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and upon which the following findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

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FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Kiesha M. Harrison ("Respondent") is a certified homemaker-home health aide in the State of New Jersey and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.
- 2. Upon receipt of a flagging notice indicating that Respondent was arrested on May 19, 2013 by the Gloucester Township Police for violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:35-10A(1), Possession of Controlled Dangerous Substance or Analog, and N.J.S.A. 2C:35-5B(5), Distribute Narcotic Drug, the Board sent a letter of inquiry, requesting certain information and

submission of documents, to Respondent's address of record in Sicklerville, New Jersey, via regular and certified mail on or about May 22, 2013. A response was due within twenty (20) days. The certified mailing was returned as "No Such Number" and it had been incorrectly addressed. On or about October 24, 2013 the letter of inquiry was sent again to the correct address of record with the Board. The regular mailing was not returned; the certified mailing was delivered and signed for on October 28, 2014.

3. To date, Respondent has not responded to the Board's request for information.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Respondent's failure to respond to the Board's request for information constitutes a failure to cooperate with a Board investigation, in contravention of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.2 and 1.3, in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e), subjecting Respondent to disciplinary action pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(h).

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of Discipline was entered on July 23, 2014, provisionally suspending respondent's certification to practice as a certified homemaker-home health aide, and imposing a \$200.00 civil penalty. A copy of the Order was served upon the respondent by certified and regular mail at her address of

record. The Provisional Order was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30th day following entry unless respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law by submitting a written request for modification or dismissal setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor.

Respondent replied to the Provisional Order, and furnished the documents requested in the Board's original letter of inquiry, including a narrative statement providing respondent's own version of the events that led to the arrest. Accordingly, suspension of respondent's certification for the failure to comply with the Board's request for information is no longer warranted. However, respondent's failure to timely respond to the Board's inquiry meant that the Board had to issue an order to obtain cooperation, causing undue delay, and wasting Board resources. The Board therefore found that the Provisional Order should be finalized without suspension, but imposing the \$200 civil penalty.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 6th day of April , 2015, ORDERED that:

- Respondent is hereby assessed a civil penalty in the amount of two hundred dollars (\$200). Payment shall be made by certified check or money order, payable to the State of New Jersey, delivered to George Hebert, Executive Director, State Board of Nursing, P.O. Box 45010, Newark, New Jersey 07101. Payment shall be made no later than 15 days after the entry of this order. In the event Respondent fails to make a timely payment, a certificate of debt shall be filed in accordance with N.J.S.A 45:1-24 and the Board may bring such other proceedings as authorized by law.
- 2. The Board reserves the right to take disciplinary action should the information provided by respondent demonstrate that such action is warranted.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

Patricia Murphy, President